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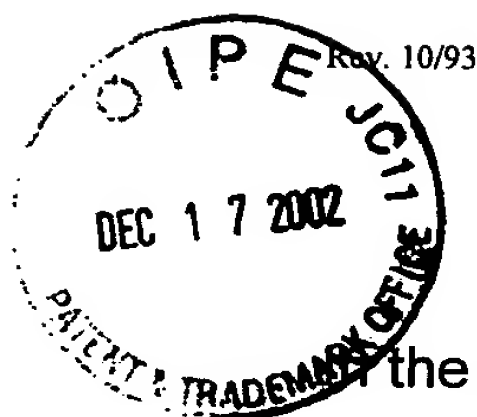
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09/883,471
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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

the Application of:

VISHAL BANSAL ET AL.

CASE NO.: SS3190USNA

SERIAL NO.: 09/883,471

GROUP ART UNIT: 1771

FILED: JUNE 18, 2001

EXAMINER: JOHN J. GUARRIELLO

FOR: MULTIPLE COMPONENT SPUNBOND
WEB AND LAMINATES THEREOF

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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated 3 October 2002, Applicants submit the following comments and request reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the final Office Action:

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 remain pending in the present application. The Examiner is requested to forward a copy of PTO Form 892 citing Lickfield et al. for Applicants' file.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)
over Lickfield et al. in view of Tabor et al.

Claims 1-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Lickfield et al. in view of Tabor et al. Applicants traverse this basis for rejection and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal thereof.

The present claims are directed to spunbond nonwoven fabrics composed of multiple component filaments having a polyester component and a polyethylene component. The polyethylene component is a mixture of LLDPE and greater than 50% by weight of HDPE (claim 1).

Applicants reiterate their comments regarding the cited references as set forth in their reply dated 28 May 2002.

In paragraph 18, page 2 of the Final Office Action, the Examiner again states that since Lickfield et al. disclose the genus (polyethylene), that such teaching must be assumed to apply to all the species thereof (HDPE or LLDPE). The Examiner's statement is clearly legal error and counter to the applicable case law. It is well-settled law that disclosure of a genus cannot make obvious a claimed species.